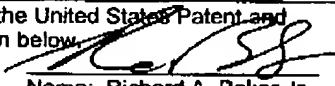


MAR 28 2006

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

|  |   |
|--|---|
| I hereby certify that the below items are being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office to facsimile number 571-273-8300 on the date shown below. |   |
| <u>March 28, 2006</u>  |  |
| Date   | Name: Richard A. Baker Jr.<br>Title: Patent Agent                                   |

Applicant:: Paul W. Sherer, et al.

Serial No.: 09/488,942

Art Unit.: 2152

Filed: January 21, 2000

Examiner: Dung C. Dinh

Attorney Docket No.: 1112.US.CIP

Title: PROGRAMMED I/O ETHERNET ADAPTER WITH EARLY INTERRUPTS FOR ACCELERATING DATA TRANSFER

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL LETTER**

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in the above-identified application.


- [ ] No additional fee is required.
- [X] The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 503650.
- [X] Also attached: RCE Transmittal (1 pg); Petition for Ext. (1 pg); Preliminary Amendment After RCE (8 pgs).  
Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 CFR 1.136(a) (1 pg).

The fee (if applicable) has been calculated as shown below:

|                    | No. of Claims | Highest Previously Paid For | Extra Claims | Rate     | Fee     |
|--------------------|---------------|-----------------------------|--------------|----------|---------|
| Total Claims       | 8             | 17                          | 0            | x \$50=  | 0       |
| Ind. Claims        | 2             | 5                           | 0            | X \$200= | 0       |
| PTO RCE filing fee |               |                             |              |          | 790.00  |
| Extension Fee      |               |                             |              |          | 1020.00 |
| TOTAL FEE          |               |                             |              |          | 1810.00 |

Respectfully submitted,

Date: March 28, 2006

By:   
Richard A. Baker Jr., Patent Agent  
Registration No. 48,124  
3Com Corporation  
350 Campus Drive  
Marlborough, MA 01752  
Tel.: 508-323-1085

MAR 28 2006

PTO/SB/30 (04-05)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031  
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**Request  
for  
Continued Examination (RCE)  
Transmittal**Address to:  
Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

|                        |                  |
|------------------------|------------------|
| Application Number     | 09/488,942       |
| Filing Date            | January 21, 2000 |
| First Named Inventor   | Paul W. Sherer   |
| Art Unit               | 2152             |
| Examiner Name          | Dung C. Dinh     |
| Attorney Docket Number | 1112.US.CIP      |

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

1. **Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114** Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s).

- a. ☐ Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.
- i. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_
- ii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_
- b. ☒ Enclosed
- i. ☒ Amendment/Reply
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/ Declaration(s)
- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- iv. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

2. **Miscellaneous**

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required)
- b. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

3. **Fees**

The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.


- The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, any underpayment of fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 503650. I have enclosed a duplicate copy of this sheet.
- a. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)
- ii. ☒ Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17)
- iii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_
- b. ☐ Check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ enclosed
- c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

**WARNING:** Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

| SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED |   |                  |                |
|---|---|------------------|----------------|
| Signature   |  | Date             | March 28, 2006 |
| Name (Print/Type)                                   | Richard A. Baker, Patent Agent  | Registration No. | 48,124         |

## CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

|                   |   |      |  |
|-------------------|---|------|--|
| Signature         |  | Date |  |
| Name (Print/Type) | Richard A. Baker  | Date |  |

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.114. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

03/29/2006 EAREGAY1 00000056 503650 09488942

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